Execution of MPLADS in Darjeeling

2451. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of MPLADS, which are yet to be executed in Darjeeling, for the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99;

(b) the reasons for such inordinate delay in execution of MPLADS; and

(c) the measures proposed to gear up the execution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) The work-wise details of MPLADS, which are yet to be executed in Darjeeling are maintained by the concerned District Authorities.

(b) Some of the main reasons for delay in execution of MPLADS are code of conduct for general elections in the past when funds could not be released, processing of works by Collectors only after receipt of funds from the Government of India, non-availability of land, delay in preparation of estimates by the implementing agencies.

(c) Recently, the Government have taken a number of steps to gear up the execution of works under the scheme, namely, advice to District Collectors to process & sanction works recommended by MPs to the extent of their yearly entitlement of funds, request to MPs to give recommendation well in advance in a phased manner, not to cancel works which have already been sanctioned, and request to all the State Governments to expedite the works under the scheme and monitor the same.